

ACTION NEA-00

INFO	LOG-00	AGRE-00	AID-00	INL-00	USNW-00	PERC-00	DS-00
	EB-00	EUR-00	E-00	H-00	IO-00	L-00	NSCE-00
	OIG-00	OMB-00	PA-00	PM-00	P-00	D-00	FMPC-00
	SP-00	IRM-00	SSO-00	SS-00	R-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00
	PRM-00	G-00	SAS-00	SWCI-00	/000W		

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RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(D)

O 181610Z SEP 04
FM AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1507
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
WHITE HOUSE NSC WASHDC
HOMELAND SECURITY CENTER WASHINGTON DC
DIA WASHINGTON DC
CIA WASHDC
CJCS WASHINGTON DC
FBI WASHINGTON DC
CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL
INFO IRAQ COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 001038

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/18/14

TAGS: KJUS, PREL, PTER, PHUM, KISL, IZ
SUBJECT: STATUS OF JUVENILE DETAINEES IN MNF-I CUSTODY

CLASSIFIED BY ACTING POLITICAL-MILITARY COUNSELOR THOMAS
DUFFY FOR REASON 1.4 (B) AND (D)

1. (C) Summary: Seventy-one detainees confirmed as being under the age of eighteen were held in MNF-I custody as of September 17, 2004 for imperative reasons of security as authorized by UNSCR 1546. Post provides the following information in response to recent media coverage of the situation of juvenile detainees in MNF-I custody and as background for Department responses to inquiries about this coverage. End summary.

2. (C) Juvenile security detainees are generally kept segregated at MNF-I detention facilities at the Baghdad Central Correction Facility at Abu Ghraib and at Camp Bucca, near Umm Qasr, awaiting review, release, or transfer to the Iraqi justice system. Advanced hospital facilities and psychological and psychiatric care are available, as are educational and family visitation programs. ICRC makes regular inspection visits to all MNF-I detention

facilities, including Abu Ghraib and Camp Bucca.

3. (C) Dates of initial detention can be broken down as follows: approximately 1% of juvenile security internees were first detained in the period May-July 2003; approximately 7% were first detained in August-October 2003; approximately 16% were first detained in November 2003-January 2004; approximately 29% were first detained in February-April 2004; approximately 32% were first detained in May-June 2004; and approximately 15% were first detained in or since August 2004.

4. (C) Common causes for internment are positive explosives test results, placement of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), arson, possession of IED components, sniper rifles, or other illegal weaponry, and involvement in mortar or other violent attacks on Coalition Forces. All juvenile detainees currently held in MNF-I custody are male.

5. (C) All juvenile detainees have been expedited for review by the joint IIG/MNF-I Combined Review and Release Board (CRRB), which commenced in August 2004, and whose recommendations are forwarded to the Deputy Commanding General for Detainee Operations for his final decision in consultation with the Iraqi Ministry of Justice. The CRRB has reviewed the files of and made recommendations on sixty-two of the seventy-one detainees. Seven remaining have been placed temporarily on hold by Military Intelligence; an additional two will see the board soon.

6. (C) Of the sixty-two juvenile detainees reviewed by the CRRB, twenty-eight have been recommended for unconditional release and sixteen have been recommended for release with a guarantor. In the latter cases, the Iraqi Ministries of Justice and Human Rights have been asked to identify appropriate guarantors, such as family members, community or religious leaders, or local government employees, to sign for the behavior of individual juveniles. Detainees recommended for unconditional release are departing MNF-I custody rapidly in a series of large-scale releases starting September 15, 2004; detainees recommended for release with a guarantor will depart as soon as suitable guarantors are identified by the IIG.

7. (C)



(The Central Criminal Court of Iraq has no jurisdiction in cases involving those under

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the age of eighteen.) It is not anticipated that MNF-I will continue to hold juvenile detainees after these large-scale releases and transfers to Iraqi custody are effected.

JEFFREY

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